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- (54) Rectangular capillaries for capillary electrophoresis.
- 57 An elongated or rectangular cross-section capillary 12 is disclosed for use in capillary electrophoresis using optical detection 10, 14. With rectangular capillaries, heat is efficiently dissipated which permits large volume applications in capillary electrophoresis. In addition, the increase in cell pathlength between the source 16 and detector 18 produces significant improvements in absorbance detection sensitivity. This advantage is also important for laser-induced fluorescence, optical rotation, and other pathlength-dependent detection schemes. Because flat walls produce less optical distortion than circular capillary walls, rectangular capillaries are particularly useful when parameters such as refractive index, photodeflection, direct visualization or particle counting are used for detection. Capillary electrophoresis employing rectangular capillaries also allows for two-dimensional separations, the lateral separation being detected with a segmental detector 14.

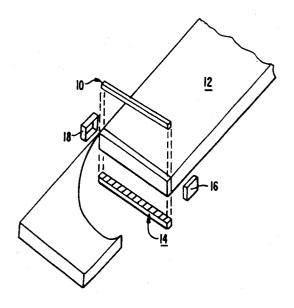


FIG.__14.



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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| Category | Citation of document with indic | ation, where appropriate, | Relevant to claim | CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5) | |
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| | The present search report has been | drawn up for all claims | <u></u> | | |
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